1: Orans E-5 (1957-1958) 1965
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Acknowledgments

114 Like many another first book by an academic this one is a somewhat more literate account of material and ideas from my dissertation presented to the anthropology department of the University of Chicago in 1962. Though there is no place to begin in acknowledging the contributions of mentors, I am especially grateful to Milton Singer who served as chairman of my thesis committee and to Fred Eggan—both of whom steered me past as many reefs as they could. Manning Nash and Surajit Sinha similarly contributed at various points as members of the committee. Along the route crucial help was also provided by Robert Redfield, Fred Gearing, Gundar Frank, Morris Morris and McKim Marriott.

114 The fourteen months of field work in India and additional
122 time for research which made this work possible were supported by funds from the Foreign Area Training Program of the Ford Foundation. Investigation of the effects of industrial employment on traditional tribal culture were greatly facilitated by the Tata Iron and Steel Company, which was generous in offering me its facilities and good offices.

3: Mukherjea O. Y-4,5 (ca. 1933-1939) 1962
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PREFACE TO THE 1st EDITION

This monograph embodies the results of my investigations 128
specially in Mayurbhanj and the Santal Parganas and is
based on the discovery of new materials regarding the ethnic
life of the Santals. As will appear from the "Acknowledge- 122
ments" that follow, I had to study the published accounts
available, note them when necessary or comment upon them
in course of my account. I am grateful to the anthropological
scholars of the past in stimulating my interest and inspiring
me to undertake personal field-work. And how far this ven-
ture, has contributed to the advancement of knowledge, is a
matter for the world of arts and letters to judge.

In a reminiscent mood, I recall that it was about the year 114
1933 when I was a practising lawyer at Dumka, Santal Par- 122
ganas, my friend late Anandi Nath Sen Gupta, Pleader, in
course of a casual conversation, infected me with a taste for
the study of Santal life. Then I contributed a number of arti-
cles to the leading Indian journals. My contributions attracted
the kind attention of Sri K. C. Neogy, the Dewan of Mayur-
bhanj State, which has a large Santal population. In course
of some correspondence with him, I wondered whether the
state was interested in a smallish volume on the tribe. In
reply, Sri K. C. Neogy wrote me in January 1938, from which
I quote the following:—

"I am glad that you are thinking of bringing out a com-
prehensive book on the Santals, incorporating your past
writings on the subject. As you know we have a very large
Santal population in Mayurbhanj, and would like to en-
courage a regular ethnological and anthropological survey of
this as well as other aboriginal tribes inhabiting this state.
I am sure the general features of Santal life are more or less
uniform throughout the country, but at the same time I am
almost sure that there are local variations as well. It is not
for me to make any definite suggestion that you should post-

3t Mukherjea O. Y-4,5 (ca. 1933-1939) 1962
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114 pone your proposed publication pending a local study of the
122 Santals here, though I should very much like to see some local colour and background introduced in your work. In case, however, you feel interested in undertaking a study of our Santal population on the spot, I shall arrange for requisite facilities in that matter."

According to his assurance, the Mayurbhanj state gave me all possible facilities for a regular ethnological and anthro-
114 pological survey of its Santal population. In my field-work, I worked under the direction of late Rai Bahadur Sarat Chandra Roy of Ranchi and I had the proud privilege of
[128] looking upon him as my *guru*. He revised my Ms., suggested additions and even saw some of the proof-sheets. But before he could write the "Foreword" he had promised, Death removed the doyen of Indian anthropological scholars.

In the absence of the Foreword, I quote below his letters to me and Sri K. C. Neogy, Dewan, containing his opinion on my monograph:—

MAN IN INDIA

Ranchi (India),

My dear Charu Babu,

I enclose the desired letter for Mr. Neogy. You may make use of it in any way you think. I trust you are doing quite well. I wish you every success in your literary ventures. I shall inform you before I go to Calcutta and shall be glad to have a report from you then (from you personally, if possible) of the progress your work is making. With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Sd. Sarat Chandra Roy.

(Enclosure)

Ranchi,

The 11th, Nov. 1939.

My dear Mr. Neogy,

I have been asked by Mr. Charulal Mukherjea to inform you what I think of the work he has been doing among the Santals of Mayurbhanj: and so I write this with great pleasure.

B Mukherjee O. Y-4,5 (e.a. 1933-1939) 1962
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I have carefully read every page of the typescript of a monograph on the Santals prepared by him, and found it to be a work of real merit. Though it deals particularly with the Santals of Mayurbhanj state, he also touches upon some aspects of Santal culture that he observed among the Santals of Santal Parganas. This adds to the value of the book for purposes of comparative study. 114

I have no doubt that the book, when published, will supply a long-felt want. The Santals are one of the most important aboriginal tribes of India and it is unfortunate that until now no reliable book on Santal ethnology has been published in English. As a student of Indian ethnology, I am eagerly looking forward to the publication of Mr. Mukherjea's monograph under the auspices of the enlightened ruler of Mayurbhanj whose patronage of science and literature is well-known. [122]

K. C. Neogy, Esq. M.A., B.L.
Dewan, Mayurbhanj State

Yours sincerely
Sd. Sarat Chandra Roy.

But I must not fail to note the rest who helped me by their advice and guidance. Prominent among those who encouraged me were Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerji, Dr. Girindra Sekhar Bose, Dr. Suniti Kumar Chatterji, Prof. Nrisendra Chandra Banerji, Prof. Ramain Haldar, Prof. Girija Sankar Bhattacharya. Dr. Chatterji helped me out of an uncomfortable position by helping us to evolve alternative diacritical marks for the romanisation of Santali and Dr. Bose very kindly revised the appendix on sex-life and helped me with his suggestions. My friend, Mr. Subodh Roy of Chinsura relieved me by revising the proofs and my nephew, Sm. Haradhan Banerji, artist, helped me with the sketches on Santal material culture. My grateful thanks to them for their valuable help. 128

Last but not the least, I must acknowledge my debt of gratitude to my Santal friends of Dumka and Mayurbhanj, Mr. R. Kisku Rapaz, Asst. Headmaster, Dumka Zilla School, Mr. Bolhrai Manjhi of Dumka, Mr. Raghunath Manjhi, teacher. 000

3t Mukherjea O. Y-4, 5 (ca. 1933-1939) 1952
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115 teacher, Rairangpur, Mr. Niranjan Manjhi of Baripada
128 helped me in the translation and transliteration of Santal folk-songs. The late Mr Jadabendra Manjhi of the
• [122] State Secretariat, Baripada, deputed by the state to help me in my studies, narrated to me many of the folk-tales incorporated in the book. It is sad to remember that he could
115 not see the work in print. Educated Santals of Rairangpur, Mayurbhanj, Messrs. Samra Charan Manjhi, Sundar Mohan Manjhi, and Sunaram Soren threw much light on their manners and customs. Hosts of other names including those of Messrs. Ananta Manjhi, Routrai Manjhi Matu Manjhi and Surendra Manjhi of Baripada crowd round my memory and to those unnamed, I offer my cordial thanks.

122 It is difficult to complete the list of my helpers without a
114 further reference to the Mayurbhanj State. The present Dewan Major B. P. Pande and his Secretary, Mr. Rajagopalam gave me facilities of Santal studies during my last trip to Mayur-
[128] bhanj. The blocks of some of the illustrations were lent by the state and the hospitality of Mayurbhanj made my several visits there comfortable and worthwhile.

128 In conclusion, I would sincerely thank Sj. Nibaran Chandra Ghatak, teacher, Chinsura, my students Sms. Sisir Kumar De, B.Sc., Bipadbhanjan Sen, Purna Chandra Chatterjea, Tara Prasad Mukherji and Subodh Chandra Ganguly in connexion with the preparation of the Mss. together with the Index.

Charulal Mukherjea
Dumka, Santal Parganas.

N. B. Slightly abridged.
C.M.

3: Mukherjea O. Y. 4, 5 (ca. 1933-1939) 1962
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In the preparation of this monograph on the Santals, apart from my own investigations, I had to study the extant literature on the tribe. There is no gainsaying the fact they are meagre and scrappy and the very want of a comprehensive account of the tribe led me to undertake the spade work. The account that follows is rough and when I place side by side the works of Rai Bahadur S. C. Roy on the other Munda tribes, I feel the vastness of the problem before me. Should circumstances so allow, I intend to take up a comparative study of the Bengal Santals with their Bihar and Orissa brethren. This was a special desire of Rai Bahadur S. C. Roy. But the difficulties of a student of ethnology with but slender financial resources, cut off from a direct touch with the University, separated from Santal areas except during vacations, can better be imagined than described. 122 114

Moreover, the extant works are rare books. These are not lent out by the Libraries and I remember how I had to wait more than six months before I could read "The Baiga" of Father Elwin, which Rai Bahadur S. C. Roy advised me to make the basis of my enquiry on the sex-life of the Santals. 122 127

The books I used for my Santal studies, were the following :—

W. W. Hunter's Statistical Account of Santal Parganas. (Col. Dalton's account). Vol. XIV (1877).

Bengal Districts Gazetteer, Santal Parganas (Vol. XXII).

E. G. Man, Sonthalia and the Sonthals.

Introduction to the Grammar of Santali Language, Rev. L. O. Skrefsrud (Published from Benares, 1875)

Report of the condition of the Santhals in the districts of Birbhum, Bankura, Midnapore and North Balasore, By M. C. MacAlpin, I.C.S. (1909).

Santali-English, English-Santali Dictionary, Dr. Campbell.

Santali Dictionary, Rev. Dr. Bodding

31 Mukherjea O. Y-4, 5 (ca. 1933-1939) 1962
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•122 Risley, People of India.
127 Risley, Tribes and Castes of Bengal.
The Mundas and their Country, Rai Bahadur S. C. Roy.
The Kharias, Do
The Birhors, Do
The Oraons of Chotanagpur. Do
Annual Report of the Santal Mission of Northern Churches, 1934.
Hörkören Mare Hapramko Reak' Katha (Bennaguria Mission).

I used the works of Rai Bahadur S. C. Roy, as the basis of my enquiry and I am indebted to a number of other books on ethnology in stimulating my endeavours. I have tried to indicate my indebtedness at the proper places, but I trust that where there has been an unintentional oversight, it will be looked upon with indulgence.

C.M.

3i Mukherjea O. Y-4, 5 (ca. 1933-1939) 1962
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PREFACE TO THE REVISED EDITION
1962

128 The printing of this monograph (first edition) began early in 1940. Towards the latter part, as the publishers added in a note, "felt the want of antique paper in the market due to war-conditions" and "had to overcome the difficulty by printing the rest of the book (one-third of the whole) on hand-made paper. Technically, this is an unavoidable blemish....." they admitted.

But this 'blemish' became disastrous as the latter parts became thoroughly worm-eaten and as (according to the publishers): the Calcutta riots disrupted the book-binders, what happened to the rest of the formes, nobody knows.

The author had presented a number of copies to some scholars and European anthropologists and the Mayurbhanj State had bought one hundred copies: this represents in short the circulation of the 1st edition.

• [122] When matters were at this stage, the West Bengal Government granted the author Rs. 2500 in 1958-59 as "encouragement to literature." This gesture helped the lame dog over a stile and formed the financial nucleus with which the reprinting of the book was undertaken by the good offices of Messrs. A. Mukherjee & Co. Private Ltd., 2, Bankim Chatterjee Street, Calcutta.

To make the monograph up-to-date, the chapters on Population and Santals and Civilisation and other relevant portions have been revised.

000 My cordial thanks to Sri Bhupati Mozumdar, former Minister, Tribal Welfare, West Bengal and Rai Harendra Nath Chaudhury, Minister of Education, for the interest they have evinced in the reprint of the work.

CHARU LAL MUKHERJEA.
Netaji Subhas Road,
Chinsura, West Bengal.

11. 7. 62